

Title 20-A: EDUCATION
Chapter 401: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Table of Contents

Part 5. POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....	
Section 10001. HEMOPHILIACS.....	3
Section 10002. RECORDS OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.....	3
Section 10003. FEES FOR DEGREES.....	4
Section 10004. PROHIBITION OF HAZING.....	4
Section 10005. STATE POSTSECONDARY REVIEW ENTITY.....	5
Section 10006. ENDOWMENT INCENTIVES.....	5
Section 10007. LIMITATION ON RECEIPT OF GIFTS, GRANTS OR DONATIONS; TRUSTEE POLICY AND REVIEW.....	7
Section 10008. INFORMATION ON MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND VACCINE	7
Section 10009. REGULATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES.....	8
Section 10010. CURRENT MEMBERS AND VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.....	8
Section 10011. RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES.....	9
Section 10012. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES DATA; REMEDIAL COURSES (WHOLE SECTION TEXT EFFECTIVE UNTIL CONTINGENCY: SEE T. 20-A, §10012, SUB-§4) (WHOLE SECTION TEXT REPEALED ON CONTINGENCY: SEE T. 20-A, §10012, SUB- §4).....	10
Section 10013. REPORT ON FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS.....	11

Maine Revised Statutes
Title 20-A: EDUCATION
Chapter 401: GENERAL PROVISIONS

§10001. HEMOPHILIACS

1. Participation in physical activity. A post-secondary institution may not require a hemophiliac to participate in physical activity hazardous to his or her physical health, as a condition or requirement for a degree, unless the physical activity is approved by the state board as an essential prerequisite to that degree.

[1983, c. 806, §74 (AMD) .]

2. Admission. A post-secondary institution may not refuse admission to a hemophiliac solely because of his or her condition as a hemophiliac, unless that condition would prevent participation in required courses of study of physical activity.

[1983, c. 806, §74 (AMD) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1981, c. 693, §§5,8 (NEW). 1983, c. 806, §74 (AMD).

§10002. RECORDS OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. Preservation of records. The trustees or officers of a post-secondary institution, on going out of existence or ceasing to function as an educational institution, shall turn over records of attendance and academic achievements by its students to the department. The department shall preserve these records.

[1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

2. Duty of the commissioner. The commissioner shall collect all attendance and academic records of post-secondary institutions within the State which are now extinct and deposit the records in a place of safety and accessibility for preservation and future use.

[1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

3. Preparation of transcript. When requested, the commissioner shall prepare transcripts of grade records from these records of extinct institutions, when they are needed by the former student for:

A. Further scholastic work at another institution of learning; or [1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

B. Certification for teaching or for other professional positions. [1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

[1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

4. Copy as best evidence. When a transcript is made from the original and certified by the commissioner, it shall be considered and accepted as legal evidence and, for all other purposes, as if it was the original.

[1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

5. Fee. The department shall charge a nominal fee for the actual cost of preparing those transcripts.

[1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1981, c. 693, §§5,8 (NEW).

§10003. FEES FOR DEGREES

An officer of a post-secondary institution may not receive as prerequisite a fee for a degree granted by the institute. Fees of this type shall be paid into the institution treasury. [1981, c. 693, §§ 5, 8 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1981, c. 693, §§5,8 (NEW).

§10004. PROHIBITION OF HAZING

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Injurious hazing" means any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of a student enrolled at an institution in this State. [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

B. "Institution" means any post-secondary institution incorporated or chartered under the laws of this State. [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

C. "Trustees" means trustees or the governing board of every post-secondary institution incorporated or chartered under the laws of this State. [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

D. "Violator" means any person or any organization which engages in hazing. [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

[1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

2. Adoption of rules. The trustees shall adopt rules:

A. For the maintenance of public order; and [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

B. Prohibiting injurious hazing by any student, faculty member, group or organization affiliated with the institution, either on or off campus. [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

[1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

3. Penalties. The trustees shall establish penalties for violation of the rules established in subsection 2. The penalties shall include, but not be limited to, provisions for:

A. In the case of a person not associated with the institution, the ejection of the violator from the campus or institution property; [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

B. In the case of a student, administrator or faculty violator, the individual's suspension, expulsion or other appropriate disciplinary action; and [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

C. In the case of an organization affiliated with the institution which authorizes hazing, recision of permission for that organization to operate on campus property or receive any other benefit of affiliation with the institution. [1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

These penalties shall be in addition to any other civil or criminal penalty to which the violator or organization may be subject.

[1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

4. Administrative responsibility. The trustees shall assign responsibility for administering the rules to an administrative officer of the institution and establish procedures for appealing the action or lack of action of the officer.

[1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

5. Dissemination. The trustees shall clearly set forth the rules and penalties and shall give a copy of them to all students enrolled in the institution.

[1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

6. Bylaws of organizations. The rules shall be part of the bylaws of all organizations affiliated with the institution.

[1983, c. 159, (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1983, c. 159, (NEW) .

§10005. STATE POSTSECONDARY REVIEW ENTITY

1. Department as state postsecondary review entity. The department is designated as the state postsecondary review entity for the purpose of carrying out the program integrity triad of the Higher Education Act of 1965, 20 United States Code, Sections 1099a to 1099a-3, as amended.

[1993, c. 493, §1 (NEW) .]

2. Rule-making authority. The commissioner has rule-making authority to implement the program integrity triad of the Higher Education Act of 1965, 20 United States Code, Sections 1099a to 1099a-3, as amended, concerning the conduct of the activities of the state postsecondary review entity.

[1993, c. 493, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1993, c. 493, §1 (NEW) .

§10006. ENDOWMENT INCENTIVES

1. Endowment Incentive Fund; nonlapsing fund. The Endowment Incentive Fund, referred to in this section as the "endowment fund," is created to provide an incentive for private donations for endowment purposes to and for the benefit of the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy, referred to in this section as "postsecondary entities," by providing matching state funds for certain private donations for specified purposes. Any funds appropriated by the Legislature to carry out the purposes of this section may not lapse and must be carried forward for continued use in the fund.

[1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF) .]

2. Treasurer of State authority for deposit of state funds; interest earned on the endowment fund; disbursement of endowment funds. The Treasurer of State is responsible for the custodial care of the endowment fund and may deposit state funds pursuant to Title 5, section 135. Interest earned on the investment of the endowment fund must be credited to the respective postsecondary entity or its qualified institutionally related foundation. The Treasurer of State is responsible for disbursement of the endowment fund, upon certification by the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the President of the Maine Community College System and the President of the Maine Maritime Academy that the criteria established in subsection 3 are met.

[1999, c. 1, §26 (COR); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF) .]

3. Administration of endowment fund; boards of trustees; boards of visitors; academic purposes. The respective boards of trustees of the postsecondary entities shall adopt criteria establishing qualifications for private gifts and grants to be matched from the endowment fund. For each university in the University of Maine System, the respective university president must recommend qualifications for that institution's endowment fund criteria to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System. Each university president may direct that university's board of visitors to review the institution's unique fund-raising needs and advise the president on the board of visitors' final recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System. The endowment fund criteria must provide that only private donations for academic purposes may qualify for matching. For the administration of this endowment fund, "academic purposes" means scholarships, professorships or other endowed faculty positions. These endowment fund criteria must:

- A. Set standards for those types of gifts that qualify for matching; [1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW) .]
- B. Establish minimum and maximum amounts for gifts to be matched from the endowment fund; and [1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW) .]
- C. Establish any other qualifications determined by the respective boards of trustees to provide the greatest incentive for encouraging private endowment gifts for academic purposes. [1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW) .]

[1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW) .]

4. Qualified recipients; institutionally related foundations; management of endowment funds. Qualified recipients of private donations eligible for matching funds are the University of Maine System and each of its universities, the Maine Community College System and each of its colleges and the Maine Maritime Academy, as well as institutionally related foundations qualified under the Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(3). Qualified institutionally related foundations may receive and manage the investment of matching funds, and may, at their discretion, hold funds allocated to them. In the absence of any conditions or restrictions to the contrary made by the donor, qualified recipients of private donations eligible for matching funds may combine, pool or merge these funds with other similar gift and endowment funds.

[1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF) .]

5. Matching funds available to postsecondary entities. Upon determination that the criteria established in subsection 3 have been met, the State Treasurer shall provide that matching funds be available to the 3 entities as follows:

- A. For an appropriated amount of more than \$10,000,000:
 - (1) University of Maine System 70%;
 - (2) Maine Community College System 25%; and
 - (3) Maine Maritime Academy 5%; and [2003, c. 688, Pt. A, §15 (AMD) .]

B. For an appropriated amount of \$10,000,000 or less:

- (1) University of Maine System 75%;
- (2) Maine Community College System 20%; and
- (3) Maine Maritime Academy 5%. [1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF).]

[2003, c. 688, Pt. A, §15 (AMD) .]

6. University of Maine System; distribution formula. The Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System shall ensure that money from the endowment fund distributed to the University of Maine System is allocated to each of the universities in proportion to the respective amounts of education funds and funds appropriated to the General Fund allocated to the various universities.

[1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW) .]

7. Reduction prohibited. Appropriations to the fund must be in addition to any other funds appropriated to the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy and may not be used to reduce appropriations for other purposes.

[1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF) .]

SECTION HISTORY

RR 1999, c. 1, §26 (COR). 1999, c. 511, §1 (NEW). 2003, c. 20, §002 (AMD). 2003, c. 20, §004 (AFF). 2003, c. 688, §A15 (AMD).

§10007. LIMITATION ON RECEIPT OF GIFTS, GRANTS OR DONATIONS; TRUSTEE POLICY AND REVIEW

In furtherance of the provisions of section 10902, subsection 2, paragraph B, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System shall each adopt a policy that ensures that each public system, its respective campus and any foundation related to each public system or its campus is prohibited from accepting funds from any source that would interfere with or otherwise restrict the academic freedoms typically accorded to the faculty of public higher educational institutions in teaching, research and expression of opinions. Policies adopted or amended by the trustees of each public system must include the establishment of a process for reviewing gifts, grants or donations of funds to ensure that the gifts, grants or donations of funds do not include restrictions that would interfere with or otherwise restrict the academic freedom of the faculty of each public system. This section may not be construed in such a way as to prohibit a donor from designating funds for a particular purpose or use, including, but not limited to, research, scholarships, construction or development. [2001, c. 86, §1 (NEW); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

2001, c. 86, §1 (NEW). 2003, c. 20, §002 (AMD). 2003, c. 20, §004 (AFF) .

§10008. INFORMATION ON MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND VACCINE

1. Provision of information; report of vaccination. Each postsecondary educational institution incorporated, chartered or established under the laws of the State that has a residential campus shall provide information on meningococcal disease and the meningococcal vaccine to each newly entering student who plans to live on the residential campus. This information must include any recommendations issued by the

national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding meningococcal disease and the meningococcal vaccine. The information must be accompanied by a statement directing the student to share the information with the student's parents or legal guardians.

[2003, c. 581, §1 (NEW) .]

2. Construction. This section may not be construed to require a postsecondary educational institution to provide the meningococcal vaccine to students.

[2003, c. 581, §1 (NEW) .]

3. Review; repeal.

[2003, c. 581, §1 (NEW); T.20-A, §10008, sub-§3 (RP) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2003, c. 581, §1 (NEW).

§10009. REGULATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

1. Definition. As used in this section the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "College or university" means any postsecondary educational institution, including:

- (1) Any degree-granting educational institution regulated under chapter 409;
- (2) Any university in the University of Maine System;
- (3) Any college in the Maine Community College System; and
- (4) The Maine Maritime Academy. [2009, c. 170, §1 (NEW) .]

[2009, c. 170, §1 (NEW) .]

2. Power to regulate. Nothing in Title 25, section 2011 limits the power of any college or university to regulate the possession of firearms on the property of the college or university.

[2009, c. 170, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2009, c. 170, §1 (NEW).

§10010. CURRENT MEMBERS AND VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

If a current member of the United States Armed Forces or a veteran of the United States Armed Forces who has been honorably discharged is enrolled in a program of education at any campus of the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System or the Maine Maritime Academy, that member or veteran is eligible for in-state tuition rates, regardless of the member's or veteran's state of residence.

[2013, c. 488, §1 (RPR) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2009, c. 443, §1 (NEW). 2009, c. 463, §1 (AMD). 2013, c. 311, §2 (AMD).
2013, c. 488, §1 (RPR).

§10011. RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Graduation rate" means the percentage of the students who enrolled at the start of a postsecondary educational degree program who completed the program and graduated. [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

B. "Peer institutions" means those postsecondary institutions selected to provide a basis for comparison of retention rates and graduation rates against similar postsecondary institutions in this State. The categories of peer institutions selected for comparison include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Public sector institutions that offer a bachelor's degree or other 4-year degree;
- (2) Public sector institutions that offer an associate degree or other 2-year degree;
- (3) Private sector institutions that offer a bachelor's degree or other 4-year degree; and
- (4) Private sector institutions that offer an associate degree or other 2-year degree. [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

C. "Postsecondary institution" means an educational institution that offers an accredited postsecondary educational degree program. "Postsecondary institution" includes an institution that offers an accredited postsecondary educational degree program on the Internet. [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

D. "Retention rate" means the percentage of the students who enrolled at the start of a postsecondary educational degree program who, not having completed the program at the end of a school year, continue enrollment in that program at the start of the next school year. [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

[2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

2. Retention and graduation rates. Using information received annually from a postsecondary institution pursuant to federal law, the department shall annually compile the data so as to demonstrate:

A. The retention rates for the previous year for the institution, including the first-to-2nd-year retention rate and the retention rate for first-time students; [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

B. For a postsecondary institution that offers an associate degree program or other 2-year program, the graduation rates for students who began their studies within the past 4 years; and [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

C. For a postsecondary institution that offers a bachelor's degree or other 4-year degree program, the graduation rates for students who began their studies within the past 6 years. [2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

[2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

3. Report. The department shall report the information compiled under subsection 2, including national comparisons of retention rates and graduation rates for peer institutions, annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and publish the report on the department's publicly accessible website.

[2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

4. Rules. The department may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules under Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

[2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2011, c. 232, §1 (NEW).

§10012. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES DATA; REMEDIAL COURSES

(CONTAINS TEXT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES)

(WHOLE SECTION TEXT EFFECTIVE UNTIL CONTINGENCY: See T. 20-A, §10012, sub-§4)

(WHOLE SECTION TEXT REPEALED ON CONTINGENCY: See T. 20-A, §10012, sub-§4)

1. Remedial courses. Using information that is already collected by the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy as part of the admissions and academic placement process, the President of the Maine Community College System, the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the President of the Maine Maritime Academy shall annually compile the data so as to demonstrate:

A. The total number of traditional students who are enrolled in remedial courses in English language arts and mathematics, which must be disaggregated by campus and by subject area; [2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW).]

B. The name of each secondary school in the State from which a traditional student enrolled in a remedial course received a high school diploma and the number of those students from each of those schools; and [2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW).]

C. The retention and graduation rates for traditional students who were enrolled in remedial courses in English language arts and mathematics, which must be disaggregated by campus. [2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW).]

For the purposes of this subsection and subsection 2, "traditional student" means a student who has attended any accredited public school or private school in the State and received a high school diploma from a secondary school in the State or who has participated in a home instruction program pursuant to section 5001-A, subsection 3, paragraph A and who in the following academic year matriculates in the Maine Community College System, in the University of Maine System or at the Maine Maritime Academy.

[2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW).]

2. Personally identifiable information. In reporting pursuant to subsection 3 the information compiled under subsection 1, the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy shall manage education records in compliance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 United States Code, Section 1232g. Those public institutions of higher education may not make public any information that could identify an individual student and shall ensure that the purpose of reporting disaggregated data for students enrolled in remedial courses is to conduct research for the purpose of evaluating and improving education programs. To ensure that personally identifiable information that would make a student's identity easily traceable is not disclosed, the public institutions of higher education may not report disaggregated information compiled under subsection 1 if the total number of traditional students who received high school diplomas from the same secondary school and enrolled in the same remedial course at the same campus is 5 or fewer.

[2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW).]

3. Report. Beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year, the President of the Maine Community College System, the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the President of the Maine Maritime Academy shall each report the information compiled under subsection 1, including recommendations for strategies that may result in fewer students enrolling in remedial courses at postsecondary educational institutions and strategies for improving the retention and graduation rates for students who were enrolled in remedial courses. The reports must be submitted by January 1st of each year to the Commissioner of

Education and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. The Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy shall publish the annual reports on their publicly accessible websites.

[2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW) .]

4. Contingent repeal. This section is repealed July 1, 2016 unless the Commissioner of Education certifies to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Revisor of Statutes before that date that the United States Congress has enacted legislation requiring public institutions of higher education to compile and report substantially the same data.

[2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2011, c. 615, §1 (NEW).

§10013. REPORT ON FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

1. Data and strategies. By January 15, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy shall each submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters a report that includes the following information regarding first-generation college students, as defined by the trustees of the respective institutions:

A. Data regarding enrollment of first-generation college students and educational outcomes, including graduation rates for first-generation college students compared with other college students; [2013, c. 166, §1 (NEW) .]

B. A summary of strategies used and activities undertaken to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students and any available data indicating the effect of those strategies and activities; and [2013, c. 166, §1 (NEW) .]

C. Plans for or recommendations regarding new strategies or actions designed to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students. [2013, c. 166, §1 (NEW) .]

After receiving a report under this section, the committee may submit legislation relating to the subject matter of the report.

[2013, c. 166, §1 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2013, c. 166, §1 (NEW).

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